

Treasury Department,

BUREAU OF THE MINT,

Washington, D. C., March 8 _____, 1892.

Superintendent Mint U.S.,

Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

Replying to your letter of yesterday in regard to coinage, I would say that I have a letter to-day from the Deputy Assistant Treasurer at New York asking when we can ship him some eagles and half eagles. While there is no scarcity of this coin in New York, there is a disposition upon the part of the Department to see that the stock of gold at the subtreasury at New York is kept intact. For this reason, I desire you to coin a large stock of eagles and half eagles with reasonable expedition. I have no objection to your coining up the stock of minor coin blanks on hand, and that the recoinage of minor coinage metal be executed, provided it is finished this quarter. This recoinage account has been hanging over the mint for nearly a year, and this is the first intimation that I have had that there was any disposition to close it out.

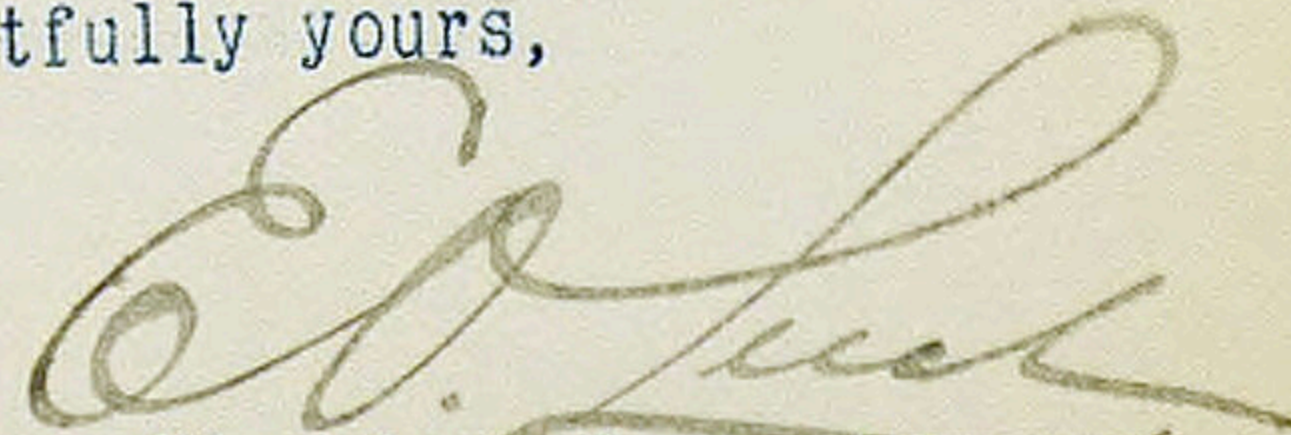
You are hereby instructed to notify the firm with whom we have a

contract for minor coinage blanks that no more minor coinage blanks will be received at present, and that due notice will be given them when any are required. We already have an immense stock of minor coins in the Mint, and I am no little surprised to find that in addition to the immense stock of coins, you have on hand three million ounces of blanks.

In regard to the balance of silver for recoinage, I would say that the Department is awaiting an appropriation for recoinage, a deficiency appropriation of fifty thousand dollars having been asked for. If there is any balance, however, remaining to the credit of the old appropriation, I will have some more silver transferred to your mint.

You will please understand that these instructions are intended to imply that the coinage of your mint will be confined as nearly as possible to gold and subsidiary silver coin, and that such minor coinage as is executed will be only for the purpose of closing out existing stocks and is not to be pressed or used as an excuse why a large gold coinage has not been executed.

Respectfully yours,



Director of the Mint.

Treasury Department,
Bureau of the Mint,
Washington, D.C.,
March 8, 1892

Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Penna.

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Respectfully yours,
E.O. Leech
Director of the Mint.